

E-LABorations

Montana DPHHS Environmental Laboratory Updates

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If you have events or stories to include in future issues of the newsletter, please submit them by email to: Joel Felix
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Introduction

The Montana Laboratory Services Bureau (LSB) has been working on a laboratory systems improvement project for the last two years. As a part of that project, our bureau asked laboratory partners from around the state to participate in the **Montana Laboratory Forum**. The purpose of the Forum is to identify ways in which the LSB can better serve the entire laboratory community in the state. One need that was identified is for better communication with our environmental laboratory partners, the State of Montana Environmental Laboratory, and the Department of Environmental Quality. In response to that need, we are instituting a brief regular communication to assist in providing laboratories with up to date and pertinent information. Although this inaugural issue is short we hope you find it useful and we look forward to expanding it to better meet your needs in upcoming issues.

Webinar

Certified Drinking Water Laboratories

The Department of Environmental Quality, Public Water Supply Compliance Program, will host an informational Webinar for Montana certified drinking water labs. This presentation will be **November 5, 2009** at 1 pm in the Metcalf Building, room 35. Local labs are encouraged to attend in person. Invitations to the certified labs have been sent via e-mail and also through the regular mail service. The presentation will include topics relevant to the certified labs about the newly adopted rules changes and the effect that they will have on monitoring and reporting. Information will also be presented on the web tools that are available now and in the future.

For more information please contact,
Andrea Vickory, 444-3358 or avickory@mt.gov

Ground Water Rule

The Ground Water Rule (GWR) goes into effect on **December 1, 2009**. Under this rule a public water system that has a total coliform positive sample from its distribution system must collect a repeat sample from all sources providing water to the system at the time the positive Total Coliform Rule (TCR) sample was collected. For systems that serve less than 1,000 people one of the four repeat samples collected under the TCR can be used for the source sample required under the GWR. This means that laboratories that submit TCR/GWR sample results to DEQ must identify the repeat sample that meets these requirements. Public water supply systems should use the identifier "RW" for samples collected from the source.

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Need Help with Ground Water Rule?
<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/disinfection/gwr/>